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## HYPODERMIC INJECTION

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The giving of a hypodermic injection is a duty which is often dreaded by a young nurse and as this particular method of giving a medication requires perfect asepsis, the difficulty of having both medication and syringe sterile is obviated if the necessary articles are provided and if there is a definite rule which the nurse may follow.

The following method is employed in the Margaret Fahnestock Training School of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital, New York City.

The hypodermic tray contains the following articles: Alcohol lamp, sterilizer for syringe and needles, sterilizer for solution, flask for sterile water, glass cover box with needles and wires, glass cover box with alcohol and sponges, glass dish for burned matches, glass jar with alcohol, 70 per cent, and forceps, Luer syringe in compress, box of matches, package of sterile compresses.

All medications are kept in a medicine cabinet just above the tray.

To prepare a hypodermic:

*First.* Pour water from the flask into the spoon and let it boil. Place a tablet in the boiled water and dissolve it, using the forceps to take the tablet from the bottle.

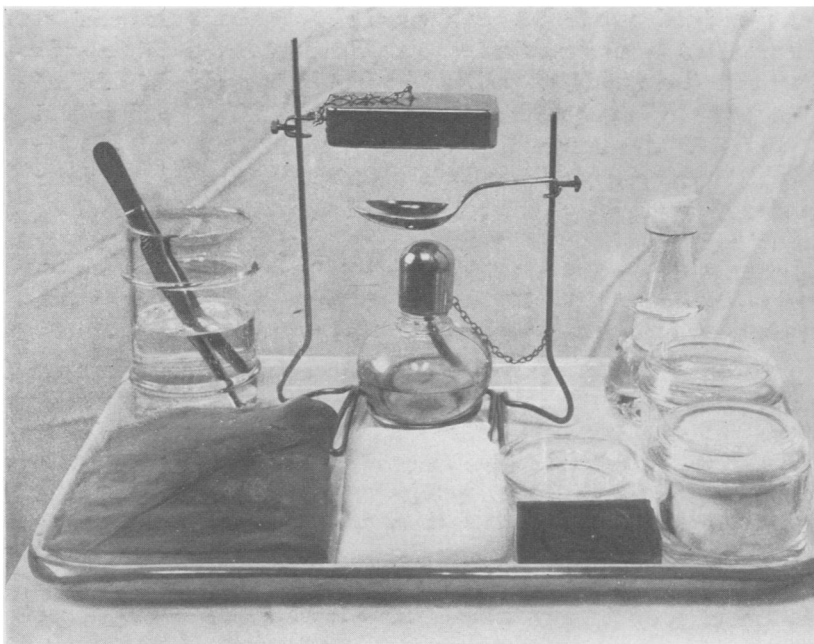
*Second.* Pour water from the flask into the sterilizer. Remove the wire from a needle. Place the needle and syringe in the sterilizer, separating the piston from the barrel. Boil one full minute.

*Third.* Draw the solution from the spoon into the syringe.

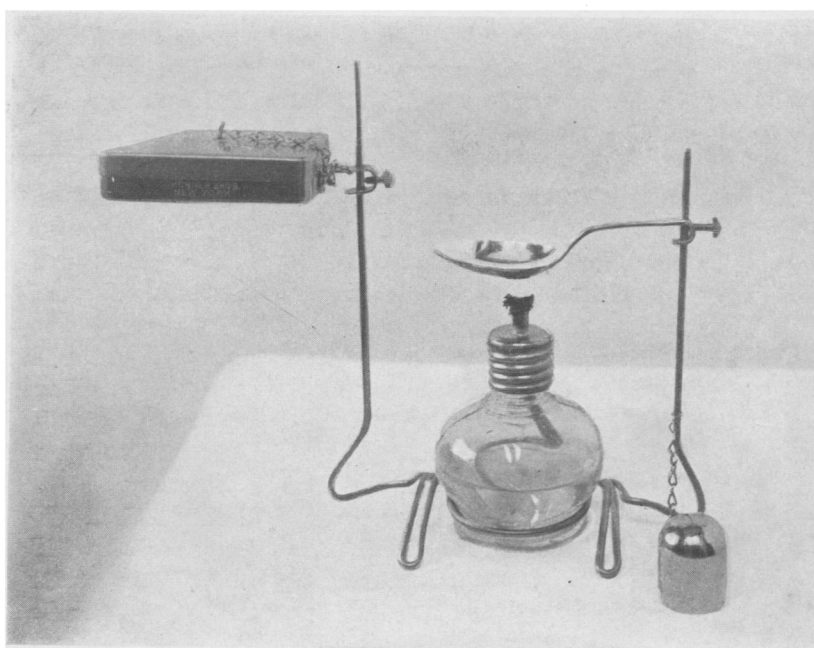
*Fourth.* Attach the needle, using forceps. Expel air. Place on sterile compress.

The hypodermic is now ready. Prepare the patient by washing the skin with alcohol, 70 per cent, using a sponge. Pick up the muscle between the finger and thumb and insert the needle under the skin at an angle of about 65 degrees. Some doctors prefer to have the skin stretched, instead of pinched, when the needle is inserted.

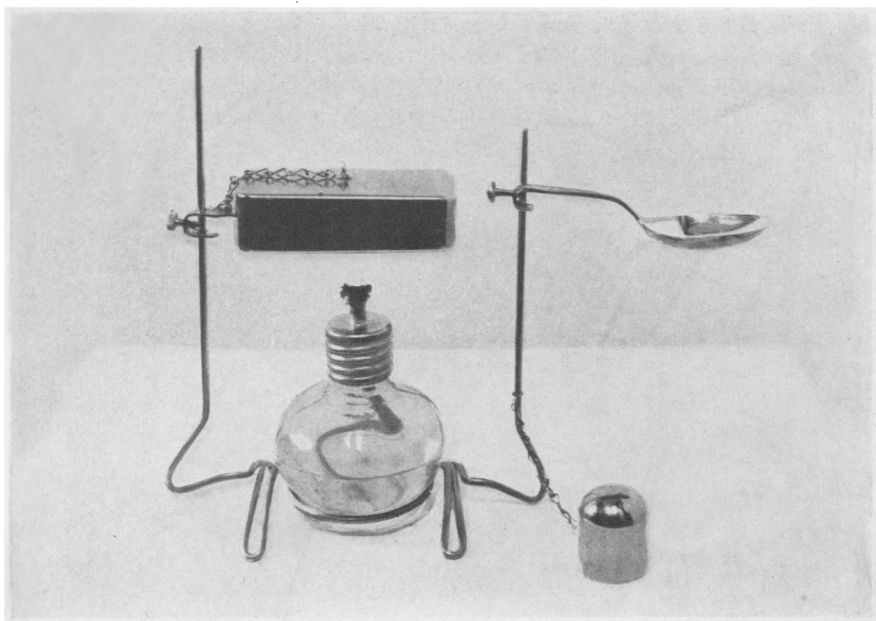
After the hypodermic has been given, wash the syringe and needle under running water, separating the piston from the barrel. Wipe dry. Insert the wire in the needle. Boil the needle for one full minute and place it in the covered box. When camphor or mercury salicylate is used, the syringe is to be washed in warm water and soap.



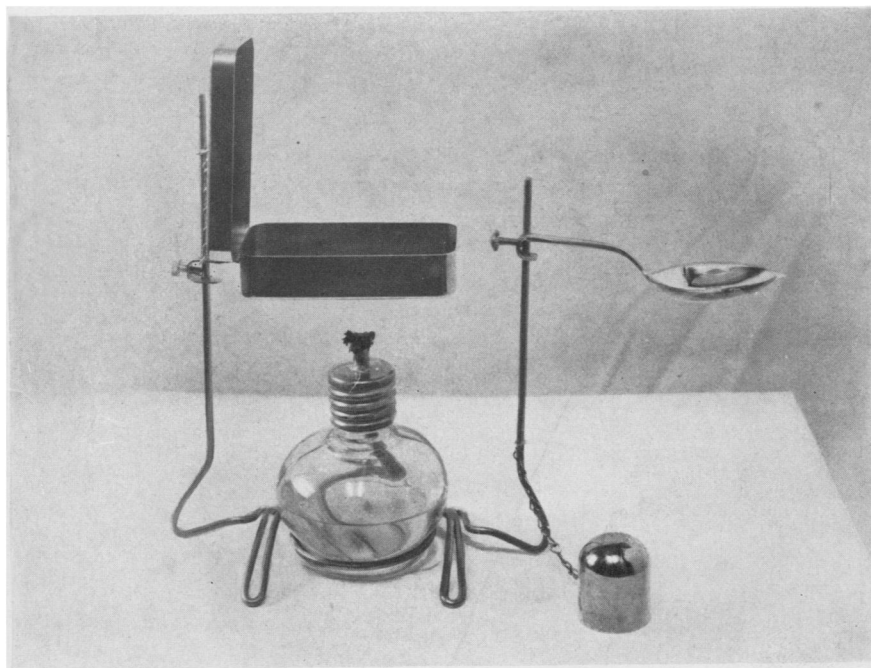
**HYPODERMIC TRAY**



**STERILIZER FOR WATER AND TABLET**



STERILIZER FOR SYRINGE AND NEEDLE



STERILIZER OPEN WITH PLACE FOR LID